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Message Text

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21
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
---------- 041708
R 310445Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO COMUSSAG NKP TH
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
SECSTATE WASHDC 69

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 5740

EXDIS/MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CB, VS AEMR, RVN
SUBJECT: EVACUATION OF EMBASSY STAFF

DEPT ALSO PASS INFO JCS, SECDEF, WASHDC, DAO SAIGON (AOSAR-ET)

1. THE ASSISTANE MILITARY ATTACHE AND FIRST SECRETARY
OF THE RVN EMBASSY HERE FORMALLY REQUESTED ASSISTANCE
OF THE DATT AND EMBASSY PHNOM PENH TO OBTAIN AIR
TRANSPORTATION FROM HERE TO SAIGON WITHIN THE NEXT
WEEK FOR THE FOLLOWING:
A. 69 PERSONNEL, MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY STAFF AND
THEIR DEPENDENTS (24 VN CIVILIAN AND MILITARY STAFF
PERSONNEL, 15 LOCAL EMPLOYEES OF THE EMBASSY, SOME
OF WHOM ARE OF VN DESCENT, AND 30 DEPENDENTS).
B. APPROXIMATELY 3 CUBIC METERS OF EMBASSY EQUIPMENT.
C. BAGGAGE FOR PERSONNEL, WHICH WILL NOT EXCEED
30 KG PER PERSON.
D. 20-30 WEAPONS(M16/CARBINE) TO BE CARRIED OUT BY
THE TEN RVN SOLDIERS(EMBASSY GUARDS), INCLUDED IN THE
69 FIGURE ABOVE.

2. THE MILITARY ATTACHE REQUESTED SPECIFICALLY
THAT THESE PERSONNEL BE SENT TO SAIGON ON A DC8
RETURNING FROM RICE LIFT INTO PHNOM PENH. HIS REASONING
IS THAT BY THIS MODE ALL OF THE PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT
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COULD GO AT ONCE AND HOPEFULLY VERY SOON AND NOT BE

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CARRIED OUT OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME. THE
RVNAF STAFF HAS ALSO APPROACHED DAO SAIGON ON THIS SAME
REQUEST. DATT PHNOM PENH HAS BEEN IN TELEPHONE CONTACT
WITH BOTH COL MCCURDY, AIRA, AND MR. SEALS, AOSAR-ET
IN SAGION.

3. U.S. MISSION, PHNOM PENH, RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF
THIS REQUEST AND AUTHORITY FOR MISSION REPRESENTATIVE
TO MAKE DIRECT COORDINATION WITH AIRCRAFT REPRESENTATIVES
CONCERNED TO ARRANGE REQUESTED TRANSPORTATION TO BE
ACCOMPLISHED EARLY THIS WEEK. WE HAVE ACCEPTED
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EMERGENCY EVACUATION, IF NECESSARY,
OF UP TO 14 RVN EMBASSY PERSONNEL. HOWEVER, IN THE
EVENT OF A REQUIREMENT TO EXECUTE EAGLE PULL, WE
WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY FIND ON OUR HANDS THE ENTIRE RVN
MISSION, BEGGING TO BE INCLUDED IN OUR PLAN. DESPITE
AGREEMENT THAT WE WILL ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR 14
ONLY WE WOULD FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO REFUSE THEIR REQUEST
AT THAT TIME BECAUSE OF OUR CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
GVN. IT THEREFORE BEHOOVES US TO ASSIST IN REDUCING
TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE THE SIZE OF THE RVN MISSION IN
PHNOM PENH.

4. USAID FLIGHTS TO SAIGON DO NOT PROVIDE ADEQUATE
SPACE TO ACCOMPLISH THIS ASSISTANCE BECAUSE THEY USE
AIRCRAFT OF SMALL INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AND DO NOT GO TO
SAIGON FREQUENTLY ENOUGH.

5. EARLIEST ACTION ON THIS REQUEST WOULD BE
APPRECIATE SO THAT THE RVN EMBASSY CAN BE ASSISTED
TO REDUCE ITS STAFF RAPIDLY.
DEAN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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